(c) whether Government propose to adopt any policy under which employees who do not own accommodation on ownership basis could be given accommodation on a priority basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) There is no such proposal.

Violation of Quality Control Provision of ISI

2502. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the Mild Steel Tubes Quality Control Order, 1978, no Mild Steel Tube can be manufactured stored or sold or distributed, having wall thickness less than that stipulated under IS : 1239, except for Sprinkler Irrigation System, for which Government have issued specific licences;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the ISI has permitted a large number of tubes having wall thickness less than that stipulated under IS: 1239, grossly violating the aforesaid Quality Control Order; and

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken to curb the violation of the said Quality Control Order?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) The Mild Steel Tubes Quality Control Order, 1978, prescribes minimum thickness of tubes which can be used for conveying steam, water, gas and air. The Quality Control Order does not make any reference to sprinkler irrigation system.

As certain new varieties of tubes based on foreign technology with a thickness lower than that specified in the Quality Control Order, 1978, appeared in the market, the need for prescribing a separate Indian Standard for them was felt. These pipes which are to be used for conveying water can be easily transported and quickly assembled and dismantled. The Indian Standard specification for these pipes has been recently published after taking into account their characteristics referred to above. The Indian Standard now published permits the use of the new pipes not only for sprinkler irrigation, but also in areas where case of transportation and quick assembling and dismantling are the prime requisites of the users.

The standards prescribed in IS: 1239 relate to conveyance of water through pipes for regular water supply schemes. As the new Indian Standard does not, at present, permit the use of pipes in question for regular water supply schemes, the Quality Control Order, 1978 does not apply to them.

(c) Does not arise.

Utilisation of Irrigation Projects

2503. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that irrigation projects in the country are not fully utilised as reported in the "The Statesman" of the 18th September, 1986; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) (a) and (b) There is some gap between the irrigation potential created and its utilization. Steps are being taken to bridge the gap by resorting to Command Area Development with provision of field channels upto 5 to 8 ha. blocks, improved water management, Farmers' particiaption, etc.